B I R D C A L E N D A R - B u l l e t i n N o. 1.

1915

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The past winter has been of less than the average severity, and on the whole favorable to Bird-Life; there was but one serious ice-storm, when the normal food-supply of resident species was cut off for four days, - February 1 - 5; yet up to the present time birds of every description have been fewer than usual.

This deficiency in Insectivorous Birds, from which practically the whole country is suffering, is the natural result of a policy of extermination that went on unchecked for half a century, and particularly in the Southern States, Negroes, as well as pot-hunters and plume-hunters everywhere, killed our song birds faster than they could breed; meantime our shore-birds were being ravaged, in the name of s p o r t, to the point of extermination. Thanks to the efforts of a few determined spirits, and the help of thousands of bird-lovers throughout the country, a Federal Bill, designed to protect absolutely all of our Migratory and Insectivorous Birds, with very few exceptions, was at last enacted into Law, in October, 1913; this is known as the McLean Migratory Bird Law, named in honor of Senator McLean, of Connecticut, who stood sponsor for the bill in the Senate; it has therefore been in operation barely one and a half years.

If this beneficent law is enforced, and if the enemies of bird-life do not effect its repeal, which is hardly probable, the outlook is bright, and the menace of total extermination which threatened every song bird in the country, is at last removed. The efforts of Bird-Lovers, however, should not relax, for there will be enemies of birds so long as there remain any to be killed. Next to the Bayne Law, which prohibits the importation and trade in the feathers of Wild Birds, the McLean Law represents the greatest advance yet made towards the conservation of wildlife, in the history of the world.

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All birds reported during the past and present season will be listed in sequence, and Bulletins will be issued in April and May. All students and other persons interested in Birds are invited to send their reports promptly to the Biological Laboratory.

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1. Cooper's Hawk; Mar. 14, at Madison; Mr. Nolan
2. Screech Owl; Jan'y 15, Noble Rd; Jan'y. 26, Case School Campus; H.S.Booth.
3. White-headed Eagle; pair at Vermillion, in Jan'y. H.S.Booth.
4. Blue Jay; Seen and heard during winter but rarely.
5. Black-capped Titmouse; seen infrequently in winter.
6. Downy Woodpecker; Noble Road, but once or twice only.
7. Meadow Lark; a small flock of five or six birds wintered again about the Shaker Lakes, and were seen or heard by Professor Finfrock, March 9; singing, Noble Rd., Mrs. Ruedy; Apr. 4, Shaker Lakes.
8. Sparrow Hawk; a pair frequently on the Adelbert Campus, alighting on their favorite perches.

9. Towhee; a single bird in January, Bluestone Rd., Cleveland Heights, Mrs. Chas. L. Murfey; Mar. 17, Noble Rd. Mrs. Ruedy; Apr. 6, Wade Park (pair) Professor Hulme.
10. Tree Sparrow; small flock, Noble Rd., Jan'y. Mrs. Dr. Ruedy.
11. Crow; First seen Feb'y. 4, and casually thereafter.
12. Cardinal Grosbeak; Jan'y. 26, 1 male and two females, Cleveland H.S. Booth; Feb'y. 9, Noble Rd., Mrs. Merrill; but few other reports.
13. Robin; Adelbert Campus, male and female, Feb'y. 20; Mr. Finley. Same date, Noble Rd., Mrs. Ruedy; Feb'y. 21, Clinton Ave., Mr. H.S.Booth. Feb'y. 28, 97th St., Miss Ruth H. Thomas; Apr. 17, Noble Rd, building; Apr. 30, building and incubating.
14. Bluebird; Feb'y. 20, one male, Noble Rd., Mrs. Ruedy; Feb'y. 21, Season's Sta. on A.B.C.line, Miss Ruth H. Thomas.
15. Song Sparrow; Feb'y. 21, Noble Rd., several Mrs. Ruedy.
16. Canada Goose; Feb'y. 24, heard flock flying over; Miss Annin.
17. Bronzed Grackle; March 2, East Cleveland; Miss Ball; March 10, 97th St., Miss Ruth H. Thomas; March 14, two in city, Mr. Booth; Mar. 19, heard on Adelbert Campus; Mar. 14, Noble Rd., Mrs. B.
18. Red-wing Blackbird; Mar. 20, one Lake View Cemetery, Professor Hulme; Apr. 8, Season's Station, Miss Ruth H. Thomas, Apr. 10, Noble Rd., Mrs. Ruedy.
19. White-bellied Nuthatch; winter resident; reported in January by Professor Hulme.
20. Ruby-crowned Kinglet; Ditto ditto.

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Note. All interested in attracting Birds to the home should procure the following: "Bird-Houses and how to Build Them"; Bulletin No. 109; Farmers Series; Dept. of Agriculture, Washington.

All interested in the preservation of our Birds should read the following: "Wild Life Conservation in Theory and Practice", by Wm. T. Hornaday, Yale University Press, 1914.

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F.H.H.